

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application  
PCT/EP03/01731 filed February 20, 2003**

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-16, without prejudice, and add new claims 17-30, in accordance with the following complete listing of all claims ever presented. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the instant application:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled)

Claim 17 (New): A method comprising: (a) providing a composition comprising a sugar ester; and (b) contacting a substrate selected from the group consisting of skin and hair with the composition.

Claim 18 (New): The method according to claim 17, wherein the sugar ester comprises a fatty acid ester of a sugar selected from the group consisting of monosaccharides, disaccharides and mixtures thereof.

Claim 19 (New): The method according to claim 17, wherein the sugar ester comprises a fatty acid ester of a sugar selected from the group consisting of fructose, glucose, trehalose, sucrose and mixtures thereof.

Claim 20 (New): The method according to claim 17, wherein the sugar ester comprises a fatty acid ester of fructose.

Claim 21 (New): The method according to claim 17, wherein the sugar ester comprises a fatty acid ester of a sugar, the fatty acid moiety corresponding to the general formula  $R^1CO-$ , wherein  $R^1CO$  is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated acyl or hydroxyacyl group having from 6 to 22 carbon atoms and having up to 3 carbon-carbon double bonds.

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Claim 22 (New): The method according to claim 21, wherein  $R^1CO$  is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated acyl or hydroxyacyl group having from 8 to 16 carbon atoms and having up to 3 carbon-carbon double bonds.

Claim 23 (New): The method according to claim 17, wherein the sugar ester comprises a fatty acid ester of a sugar, the fatty acid moiety comprising a dicarboxylic acid having from 2 to 22 carbon atoms.

Claim 24 (New): The method according to claim 17, wherein the sugar ester comprises a fatty acid ester of a sugar, the fatty acid moiety comprising a dicarboxylic acid having from 6 to 18 carbon atoms.

Claim 25 (New): The method according to claim 17, wherein the sugar ester comprises a plurality of sugar esters having an average degree of esterification of from 1 to 6.

Claim 26 (New): The method according to claim 17, wherein the sugar ester comprises a plurality of sugar esters having an average degree of esterification of from 1. to 2.5.

Claim 27 (New): The method according to claim 17, wherein the sugar ester is present in an amount of from 0.0001 to 10% by weight, based on the composition.

Claim 28 (New): The method according to claim 17, wherein the sugar ester is present in an amount of from 0.001 to 5% by weight, based on the composition.

Claim 29 (New): The method according to claim 17, wherein the sugar ester is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 1% by weight, based on the composition.

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Claim 30 (New): A method comprising: (a) providing a composition comprising a plurality of sugar esters having an average degree of esterification of from 1. to 2.5, at least one of the sugar esters comprising a fatty acid ester of a sugar selected from the group consisting of fructose, glucose, trehalose, sucrose and mixtures thereof, the fatty acid moiety corresponding to the general formula  $R^1CO-$ , wherein  $R^1CO$  is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated acyl or hydroxyacyl group having from 6 to 22 carbon atoms and having up to 3 carbon-carbon double bonds, and wherein the plurality of sugar esters is present in an amount of from 0.0001 to 10% by weight, based on the composition; and (b) contacting a substrate selected from the group consisting of skin and hair with the composition.